



AF01158

PATENT

- 1 -

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application: Hui et al.
Serial No.: 10/799,413
Filed: March 12, 2004
Art Unit: 2814
Examiner: Mai, Anh D.

Title: AVOIDING FIELD OXIDE GOUGING IN SHALLOW
TRENCH ISOLATION (STI) REGIONS

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of October 18, 2005 (Paper No. 7), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 18, 2006, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any item referred to as being enclosed herewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 22, 2005.

Signature

Toni Stanley

Toni Stanley

(Printed name of person certifying)